

10. (Twice Amended) A compound for treating a disease state in a subject, said disease state characterized by exhibiting:

- i) a serum concentration of free light chain of immunoglobulin in serum of at least 8 mg/l;
- ii) a spinal fluid concentration of free light kappa-chain of immunoglobulin of at least 70 μ g/l; and/or
- iii) a spinal fluid concentration of free lambda-chain of immunoglobulin of at least 300 μ g/l;

said compound comprising:

wherein when the compound is in the presence of an equimolar quantity of free light chain of immunoglobulin (LC), reduces the equimolar quantity of LC's binding to mast cells present in solution therewith by at least 5%.

11. (Twice Amended) The compound of claim 10, wherein the compound inhibits LC's binding to mast cells present in solution by at least 10%.

12. (Twice Amended) The compound of claim 10, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, allergy, chronic inflammatory bowel disorders, viral infection and multiple sclerosis.

13. (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound that, in the presence of an equimolar quantity of free light chain of immunoglobulin (LC), reduces the equimolar quantity of LC's binding to mast cells present in the solution by at least 5%, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

16. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound reduces the binding of said peptide to the free light chain of immunoglobulin by at least 25%.

17. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound reduces the binding of said peptide to the free light chain of immunoglobulin by at least 50%.

18. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound reduces the binding of said peptide to the free light chain of immunoglobulin by at least 75%.

19. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound reduces the binding of said peptide to the free light chain of immunoglobulin by at least 90%.

20. (Amended) The compound of claim 4, wherein the compound has a mass of less than 10 kDal.

21. (Amended) The compound of claim 5, wherein the compound has a mass of less than 2 kDal.

22. (Amended) A compound produced by a process, said process comprising: screening a series of compounds for each of said compound's capability to bind an immunoglobulin's free light chain (LC), said screening comprising:

- a) incubating a compound from said series of compounds with an admixture comprising LC and a labeled compound, said labeled compound comprising a compound and a label, and said compound capable of:
 - i) binding the free light chain of immunoglobulin; and
 - ii) competing with a peptide with the amino acid sequence AHWSGHCL (SEQ ID NO: 1) for binding with the free light chain of immunoglobulin; and

isolating the compounds which bind LC and compete with the peptide.

23. (Amended) The compound of claim 22, characterized in that the compound has a mass less than 10 kDal.

24. (Amended) The compound of claim 23, wherein the compound is an LC-binding peptide fragment of Tamm-Horsfall glycoprotein or a derivative thereof.

B G C E
25. (Amended) The compound of claim 22, characterized in that the compound has a mass less than 2 kDal.

Please add the following new claims:

MC
31. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the compound: binds LC; competes for binding with LC and a peptide with the amino acid sequence AHWSGHCL (SEQ ID NO: 1); and reduces binding of said peptide with LC by at least 5% when the compound and peptide are present in a solution with said LC in equimolar amounts.

B
32. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the compound is a peptide having a mass of less than 10 kDal.